

COPY

The Honorable
The Attorney General
Department of Justice
Washington 25, D. C.

Dear Mr. Attorney General:

Mr. James C. Hagerty, Press Secretary to the President, furnished this Agency with a copy of a proposed Executive Order covering classification of security information and asked that any suggestions be forwarded to the Attorney General.

The following paragraph is proposed as an addition to Section 2. of page 2.

"(d) The Head of any department or agency in paragraphs (a) to (c) above may authorize officials of such agency to impose an appropriate temporary classification on sensitive items of defense or intelligence information which they encounter in the course of their duties, such temporary classification to cover the period of transmittal of the information from the official to the Head of the agency."

The foregoing addition is submitted to afford protection to intelligence sources in situations which occasionally do occur, such as:

An official of the Export-Import Bank or the U. S. Tariff Commission uncovers a sensitive item of financial or economic intelligence in the course of negotiations. The official might be abroad at the time and the means of transmittal should follow the appropriate channel of communication of classified information from this official to the Head of the agency.

Document No.	40
No Change in Class.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
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Class. Changed to:	T S C
Next Review Date	
Auth:	HR 70-3
Date:	1/23/79
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Officers of the following Departments and Agencies occasionally may encounter sensitive information in the field which requires temporary protection in transmittal to the agency Head:

Civil Aeronautics Board
Federal Communications Commission
Panama Canal Company
Post Office Department
Veterans Administration
Selective Service System

Sincerely,

C. P. Cabell
Lieutenant General, USAF
Acting Director

SO/CVB:skh (1 Sept 53)

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